

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are pending in the present application. After entry of the above amendments, claims 7- 12 are amended and new claims 13-22 will be added. Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance, which prompt and favorable action is respectfully requested.

1. Allowance of Claims 1-6

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation allowance of Claims 1-6.

2. Rejection of Claims 7 and 12 under 35 USC Section 102(e).

Applicants have amended Claim 7 to include the same limitations claimed in the allowed claims 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw this rejection.

3. Objection to Claims 8-11.

Applicants have amended Claim 8 to include all limitations of its base claim (e.g., Claim 7). Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw this objection and pass these claims for allowance.

4. New Claims 13-22

Applicants have added new claims 13 and 14 that include the same limitations claimed in the allowed claims 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to pass these claims for allowance.

Applicants have added new claims 15-22 claiming the matter disclosed on page 12, lines 6-17, for example. No new matter is introduced.

CONCLUSION

All of the claim rejections have been traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that all current rejections and objections be withdrawn, and that all present claims be allowed. Applicant believes that a complete response has been made to the outstanding office action. If the examiner believes that a personal communication is needed to resolve any outstanding issues, the examiner is invited to call the attorney at the telephone number provided below.

Please charge any fees or overpayments that may be due with this response to Deposit Account No. 17-0026.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: November 3, 2003

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